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8 JUL 1958

Alice

June

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Lilly

Chris

The Rev. Dr. Edward L. R. Elson
The National Presbyterian Church
1764 N Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Dr. Elson:

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in forwarding the analysis of Professors Hocking and Gildersleeve, as well as Clarence E. Pickett's statement, on the situation in the Middle East. I share in full measure your concern over the critical nature of the unresolved problem of Arab-Israeli relations. This situation is one which we have continuously under study and observation, although of course, as you knew, the formulation of American policy is not within the Agency's province.

Sincerely yours,

Signed

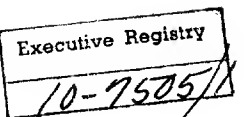
Allen W. Dulles
Director

Orig + 1 - addn OC1
1cc - DC1 - w/ey comments
1cc - ER via leadship - w/ey OC1 comment
1cc - DD/1 w/ey basic & OC1 comment
1cc - DDC1 - w/ey OC1 comments

CONCUR:

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EYES ONLY

6 October 1958

Comment on "Peace by Persuasion in the Middle East"
by Dr. W.E. Hocking and Dr. V.C. Gildersleeve

1. This pamphlet reviews some of the facts which led to the creation of Israel. It begins with an analysis of the Balfour Declaration of 1917, emphasizes the ambiguities in the British declaration, describes the tough techniques used by Israel to establish itself, and notes the American support for Israel.

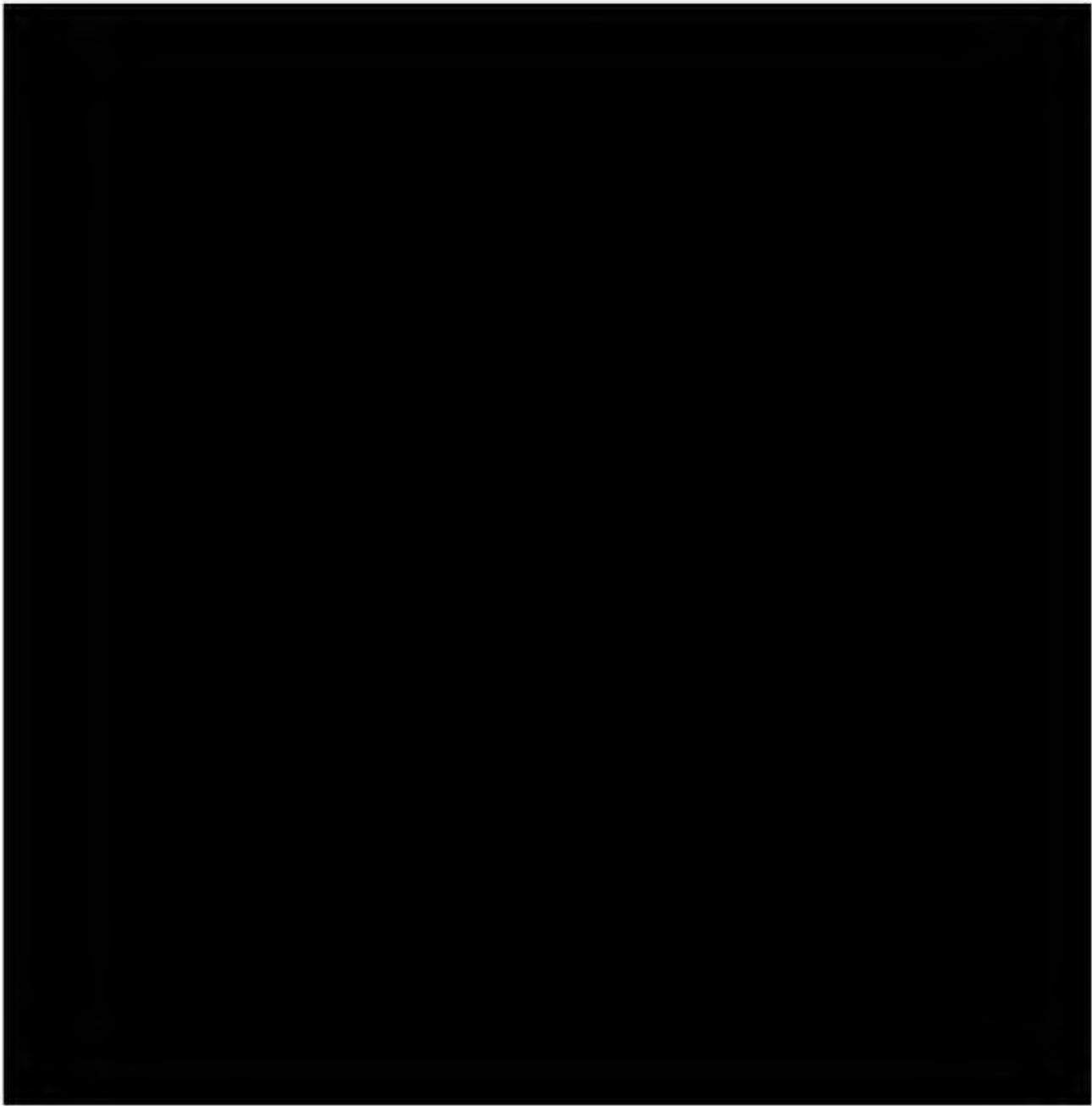
2. The thesis of this pamphlet in essence is that since the creation of the state of Israel in 1948 was an injustice perpetrated in part by the United States, the Israelis must be persuaded by American and UN pressure to meet with the Arabs to discuss border revisions, to agree to the UN resolution providing for the internationalization of Jerusalem, and to acknowledge at least the right of the Arab refugees to repatriation. In addition, Israel must "restate the ideal of Zion in universal terms"--i.e., abandon Jewish nationalism and Israel's expansive tendencies.

3. The authors claim that by adopting these policies Israel would win the good will, "even the gratitude," of the world, and that the Arabs, relieved of the sense of injustice they now feel concerning the problem, might well in turn recognize Israel and lift the boycott now in force against that

state. The authors suggest that the United States could then "help generously" with the economic development of the area as a whole. The authors fear that if a solution is not found another world war sparked by a new Arab-Israeli conflict will result.

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